

1989 Regional meet...

Cross country regional meet Saturday in Tiffin

News-Messenger reports

The regional cross country meets are scheduled for Hedges Boyer Park Saturday in Tiffin.

Eight area boys and girls teams and eight individuals will compete in the three divisions.

The Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic and Gibsonburg boys teams will compete in the Division III, Region 10-1 race at 3:05 p.m.

The Genoa and Lakota boys will run in the Division II event at 3:45 p.m.

The boys Division I race with Bellevue and Tim Nesbitt of Ross in the field, takes the starting gun at 4:25 p.m.

In girls races, Clyde, Lakota and Margaretta will compete in the Division II run at 1:05 p.m..

Also in that race will be Susan David of Genoa, Jenny Helmeci of Woodmore, Theresa Darr of Port Clinton, Becky Magers and Chris Havens of Old Fort.

Bellevue's girls are in the 1:45 p.m. Division I race. Amy Ritzman of Ross will run as an individual.

Tim Arndt of St. Joe enters the

regional run as the district champion out of the Toledo district. The Crimson Streaks finished second in the district.

Gibsonburg, paced by Tom Wasserman's third-place finish, was third at the Galion district.

Genoa was second and Lakota third in the Toledo district. Bill Werner led the Comets with a third-place finish. Dale Smith placed eighth for Lakota.

Nesbitt finished fifth in the Galion Division I district race to qualify for the regional.

Lisa Renfro paced the Clyde girls to a second place in the Division II district at Galion with a fourth-place finish. Lakota, with Julie Harrison placing eighth, was second in the Toledo district.

David finished seventh, Helmeci 13th and Darr 15th at Toledo to grab individual regional berths. Magers was the individual winner at Galion and her teammate Havens was fifth.

Shelly Cotterill, with a third place in the Galion district, leads the Bellevue girls. Ritzman finished seventh for Ross.

Nesbitt runs to state meet

By MARK GRIFFIN

Staff writer

TIFFIN — Tim Nesbitt saw his future a year ago, and football wasn't in it.

Thus was the reason the Fremont Ross senior switched from football to cross country. And judging by his performance Saturday at the regional cross country meet at Hedges Boyer Park, he made the right choice.

Nesbitt finished 10th in 16:20 in the Division I race, qualifying him for this Saturday's state meet at Scioto Downs in Columbus. The top 12 individuals in each event advanced.

Why was Nesbitt so quick to change sports?

"I just feel more comfortable running," he said. "I thought my chances would be better getting to college (on a scholarship) than playing football."

"I kind of expected to go to state. I always expect the most out of myself. That was my goal all year long, to go to state."

Fremont St. Joeseph's Tim Arndt and the Lakota girls team also qualified for the state meet.

Arndt, a state qualifier last year, had to fight off a case of bronchitis to finish fifth in the Division III race in 16:48.

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"It's breaking up right now," the junior said of his recurring ailment. "I'm just getting over it. I should be pretty good by the middle of next week. It'll be easy practices and then I'll go for it at state."

"Tim is a better runner than his fifth-place finish showed today," said St. Joe Coach Gary Logsdon, whose team finished fifth with 139 points.

Toledo Christian won the boys Division III event with 72 points, followed by Sandusky St. Mary's (101), Huron (113) and Collins Western Reserve (136). The top three teams advance to Columbus.

Gibsonburg, which took seventh with 161 points, got a 16th-place finish from Don Miller (17:43).

Genoa's boys finished third with 99 points in the Division II race. Sophomore Bill Werner qualified as an individual, taking ninth in 16:27.

Port Clinton senior Scott Thomas also qualified by taking seventh in 16:26.

Other individuals not so fortunate were Port Clinton freshman Theresa Darr, Woodmore junior Jenni Helmeci and Genoa senior Susan David.

Darr took 39th in 21:18, while Helmeci, a two-time state qualifier, took 77th in 22:07. David was 27th in 20:54.

In the girls Division II race, Clyde placed 10th with 302 points and Margareta was 13th with 335. Sandusky St. Mary's won the meet with 63.

Lisa Renfro had Clyde's top finish, taking 30th in 21:01.

Mary Dalton was 34th in 21:11 to pace Margareta.

Julie Harrison was 37th in 21:17 for the Lakota girls, who took the fifth, and final, qualifying spot. Stephanie Cooper was 48th in 21:29 for the Raiders, while Sarah Strawman was 59th (21:47), Deb Carlo was 60th (21:48) and Sonya Conrad was 106th (22:36).

St. Joe's Arndt, who finished 46th at last year's state meet, said he refused to let his bronchitis interfere with another trip to Columbus.

"I wanted to make it so bad, it just carried me on through," he said.

Nesbitt was in the lead pack for about the first mile and still was in 10th place with less than a half-mile to go. No one else passed him the rest of the way.

"He did exactly what he wanted to do," Ross Coach John Elder said. "Our goal was to qualify in the top 12 somewhere, and he knew if he didn't go out hard, he may not make it."

Amy Ritzman of Ross finished 57th in the Division I girls race.